

DIPLOLEMUS DARWINII. *Mihi.*

PLATE X.

Squamis capitis convexis; caudâ, corpore cum capite longiore.

Habitat, Port Desire, Patagonia.

DESCRIPTION.—Head short, almost equilaterally triangular, rising obliquely from the muzzle to the vertex, then flattened. Nostrils large, round, each placed in front of the supra-orbital crest, and in a line between it and the centre of the muzzle. The ears are small, oval, the margin simple, and the membrana tympani superficial. The neck is considerably contracted; it has a longitudinal fold on each side formed by the confluence of two others, one of which arises from behind the angle of the mouth, and the other from above the ear, which is, as it were, enclosed between them; they coalesce a little behind the ear. There is also a distinct transverse fold on the throat, very similar to that in *Leiosaurus Bellii*. The body is moderately thick, somewhat depressed, and without the slightest appearance of a longitudinal crest, or any elevation along the median line. The tail is somewhat longer than the head and body, nearly round and tapering almost evenly from its origin to the apex. The fore legs are short and moderately robust, the toes short, nearly equal; the hinder legs moderately long. The former when placed against the sides, do not reach the thighs by nearly a third of the distance between the two limbs; the latter when directed forwards, just reach the axillæ. The cloacal covering is semi-lunar, turgid, and the margin quite simple.

Scales covering the upper surface of the head numerous, rounded, and considerably elevated; those between the two supra-orbital semicircles are in a double series. The occipital plate is oval, raised from the margin, hollowed immediately around the centre which is again raised like a minute tubercle. Above the labial scales, is a series of equal, rounded, oblong scales, and between these and the principal suborbital is a single series of smaller ones. Scales of the whole of the upper and lateral parts of the neck and body extremely small, slightly elevated, passing at the sides into a flatter and more expanded form. Those of the whole of the under parts are quite flat and imbricated. Beneath the anterior parts of the lower jaw, and behind the broad mental scales, are a series of flat, hexagonal scales on each side, passing backwards and outwards, the front pair large and oblong and the others diminishing by degrees. The scales of the throat are very small, those on the fold larger and acutely rhomboidal. The scales of the anterior part of the belly are also rhomboidal and those of the posterior portion hexagonal or nearly quadrate. The tail is covered by scales disposed in whorls, those on the median line beneath being larger than the others. Beneath each toe is a series of transverse hexagonal imbricated scales.

The colours and markings of this species are very difficult to be described, on account of the great irregularity of their disposition. The ground colour of the head is yellow, passing into grey on the back part. The anterior part has several small spots of a dark brown colour, and there is a larger one on each orbit, another between the eye and the ear, and others on the back part of the head extending to the neck. The middle of the back is reddish yellow, on

each side bluish gray, passing beneath into yellowish white. A series of very irregular transverse spots cross the yellow median portion of the back, and there are others on the sides; and these two series becoming confluent on the tail, form, with the yellow ground, alternate half rings of the two colours. The upper part of the legs has similar bands. The whole of the throat, belly, and inferior surface of the limbs and tail are yellowish white. There are numerous small blackish spots over these parts which are more distinct and linear on the throat, and becoming paler, smaller and round on the belly.

DIMENSIONS.

	Inches.	Lines.
Length of the head	1	0
of the body	2	2
of the tail.....	3	8
Total length.....	7	0
Length of anterior extremity	1	1
of posterior extremity	1	6

Taken at Port Desire, on the coast of Patagonia.

DIPLOLEMUS BIBRONII. *Mihi.*

PLATE XI.

Squamis capitis planis; caudâ corpore cum capite brevior.

Habitat, Port Desire.

DESCRIPTION.—Head thick and clumsy, longer than it is broad, muzzle obtuse, supra-orbital arches slightly elevated. Nostrils as in the former species, in size, form, and situation. Ears sub-triangular, the margin simple. Neck considerably contracted, with a longitudinal fold on each side, and a distinct transverse fold on the throat. Body rather broad, slightly depressed, perfectly even, without any central crest or elevation. The tail is shorter than the head and body, slightly triangular at its base, tapering regularly to its extremity. Limbs of moderate length; the toes of each foot longer than in *D. Bibronii*, and those of the fore-feet more unequal, the third being the longest, then the fourth, the second, the fifth, and the first. The fore-legs placed against the side reaches to about two-thirds of the distance between the shoulder and thigh; the hinder foot placed in the same manner reaches to the axilla.

The scales of the head are quite flat, a character in which this species differs remarkably from the former, although in their number and arrangement they are very similar. The occipital scale is flat and hexagonal. Between the labial scales and the suborbital, there are, in addition to the regular series of larger supralabial scales, at least three distinct series of smaller ones; whereas in *D. Darwinii* there is but one.

The scales of the temples, the neck, the body, the limbs and the tail, are similar to those